

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A system for providing for future rate changes in a billing system,
2 comprising:
3 means for identifying that a future rate plan is to be changed;
4 means for selecting the future rate plan desired; and
5 means for implementing the future rate change.
- 1 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for determining if the future rate change is a single plan change.
- 1 3. The system of claim 2, further comprising:
2 means for verifying that the future rate plan is consistent with an old rate plan if
3 the future rate change is the single plan change.
- 1 4. The system of claim 3, further comprising:
2 means for selecting the effective date of the future rate plan.
- 1 5. The system of claim 4, further comprising:
2 means for selecting the first day of a next billing cycle if the future rate change
3 is not a single plan change.

1 6. A method for providing for future rate changes in a billing system, said
2 method comprising the steps of:

3 identifying that a future rate plan is to be changed;
4 selecting the future rate plan desired; and
5 implementing the future rate change.

1 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:
2 determining if the future rate change is a single plan change.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of:
2 verifying that the future rate plan is consistent with an old rate plan if the future
3 rate change is the single plan change.

1 9. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:
2 selecting the effective date of the future rate plan.

1 10. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of:
2 selecting the first day of a next billing cycle if the future rate change is not a
3 single plan change.

1 11. A computer readable medium for providing for future rate changes in a
2 billing system, comprising:

3 logic for identifying that a future rate plan is to be changed;
4 logic for selecting the future rate plan desired; and
5 logic for implementing the future rate change.

1 12. The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising:
2 logic for determining if the future rate change is a single plan change.

1 13. The computer readable medium of claim 12, further comprising:
2 logic for verifying that the future rate plan is consistent with an old rate plan if
3 the future rate change is the single plan change.

1 14. The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising:
2 logic for selecting the effective date of the future rate plan.

1 15. The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising:
2 logic for selecting the first day of a next billing cycle if the future rate change is
3 not a single plan change.

1 16. A system for providing for future rate changes in a billing system,

2 comprising:

3 an identifier that identifies that a future rate plan is to be changed;

4 a selector that enables a user to select the future rate plan desired; and

5 a processor that implements the future rate change.

1 17. The system of claim 16, further comprising:

2 a determiner that determines if the future rate change is a single plan change.

1 18. The system of claim 17, further comprising:

2 a validator that validates that the future rate plan is consistent with an old rate

3 plan if the future rate change is the single plan change.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the selector is configured to enable a

2 user to select the effective date of the future rate plan.

1 20. The system of claim 16, wherein the selector is configured to select the

2 first day of a next billing cycle if the future rate change is not a single plan change.